Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

NOV 04 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference LE/fr030029wo	FOR FURTHER ACTION				
International application No. PCT/DE2002/000168	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 January 2002 (19.01.2002)	Priority date (day/month/year)			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or n B65D 90/00	national classification and IPC				
Applicant LEPU	JS VERMÖGENSVERWALTUNG	GMBН			
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. This REPORT consists of a total of5 sheets, including this cover sheet. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of1 sheets. 					
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I Basis of the report II Priority III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV Lack of unity of invention V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI Certain documents cited VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain observations on the international application					
Date of submission of the demand 16 June 2003 (16.06.2)	<u> </u>	of completion of this report 17 May 2004 (17.05.2004)			
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/	Authorized officer	Authorized officer			
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.	Telephone No.			

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE2002/000168

I.	I. Basis of the report								
1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*									
l		the international application as originally filed							
•	\bowtie		cription:						
Ì		pages	1-6	, as originally filed					
		pages		, filed with the demand					
		pages	, filed with the letter of						
	\boxtimes	the clair	ms:	•					
İ		pages	2-5	, as originally filed					
		pages	, as amended (togethe	er with any statement under Article 19					
		pages		, filed with the demand					
l		pages	, filed with the letter of	10 September 2003 (10.09.2003)					
	\boxtimes	the drav	vings:						
		pages	1/4-4/4	, as originally filed					
l		pages		, filed with the demand					
		pages	, filed with the letter of	· ·					
		ha sasua	nce listing part of the description:						
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		pages	, filed with the letter of						
		F-8-5	, fried with the letter of						
2.	the in	iternation	the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to the all application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. It is were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language	, , , ,					
	Tilles		swere available of furnished to this Additionary in the following language	which is:					
Ī	H	tule 23.1(b)).							
	H	_	guage of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). Guage of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminar	or committee (or don Ports 66.0 and/					
		or 55.3)	y examination (under Rule 55.2 and)						
3.	With	ational application, the international							
1		contain	ed in the international application in written form.						
	Ц	filed to	gether with the international application in computer readable form.						
furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.									
		furnishe	ed subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.						
		The sta	tement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does no ional application as filed has been furnished.	t go beyond the disclosure in the					
		The sta	tement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical mished.	I to the written sequence listing has					
4.		The am	endments have resulted in the cancellation of:						
		□ *	he description, pages						
			he claims, Nos.						
		_ t	he drawings, sheets/fig						
5.			ort has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, so the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	ince they have been considered to go					
*	* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).								
**	** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.								

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International application No. PCT/DE 02/00168

v.	Reasoned statement under Article 3 citations and explanations supporting	5(2) with regard to novelty g such statement	, inventive step or industrial appl	icability;
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
		Claims		МО
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-5	YES
		Claims		NO NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
		Claims		NO

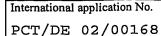
2. Citations and explanations

1. The closest prior art document, US 4 819 820 A, discloses a container (1) on whose outer walls (4, 5, 6, 7) hollow bodies (11) for receiving locking devices are disposed for the purpose of locking the container to similar containers, wherein the container (1) on its outer sides (4, 5, 6, 7) has means (25) which engage means (32) of neighbouring containers, position the container relative to the neighbouring container or containers in a defined manner and horizontally lock the containers to each other.

The concept according to which the means are in the same form and disposed on all four vertical outer sides for the purpose of achieving a simpler container structure has not yet been suggested or disclosed in the searched prior art.

Claim 1 is therefore novel and inventive.

 Consequently, dependent claims 2 to 5 are likewise novel and inventive.



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- 3. Claim 1, and hence all the dependent claims, are unclear within the meaning of PCT Article 6 because the word "on" (German: "an"), which should be the second word in claim 1, is missing.
- 4. Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite document US 4 819 820 A or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.
- 5. Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(iii), the description is not consistent with the claims.
- 6. The features of the claims are not followed by reference signs placed between parentheses (PCT Rule 6.2(b)).
- 7. Claim 1 has been duly drafted in the two-part form, but some features should not have been included in the characterizing part since they were disclosed in document US 4 819 820 A (see paragraph 1 above) in conjunction with the features indicated in the preamble (PCT Rule 6.3(b)).